STEAM LANES.

Present Condition of the Great Maritime Question.

WHY THEY SHOULD BE ESTABLISHED.

Action of Congress, the Chamber of Commerce and Distinguished Scientists.

The HERALD'S advocacy of "steam lanes" shows what great practical benefits may arise from the intelligent discussion of a public desideratum in the columns of a newspaper. The atten-tion of the most eminent scientists has been en-disted in the subject, and the certainty that they must be ultimately adopted has had the effect of enlisting also that not sparse body of gentlemen who are always ready to rush to the embrace of success, recognizing that there is no success like success. The Social Science Congress, which is now in session, is to take up the subject and urge "steam lanes" as a necessity; the Chamber of Commerce has already fulminated its decree that they must be established; Congress has placed the matter in the hands of gentlemen as earnest and popular as Mr. Cox in the Youse and senator Conking in the Senate; the steamship companies have already yielded to the demand of the people; England, through the House of Com-mons, and France, by the voice of Admiral Jaurez, have both assented to the broad principle as at once humane, practical and of the first maritime mportance. It is certain, then, that such a movement, so auspiciously begun, cannot end in sothingness. It is not exaggeration to say that the enterprise, while exceeding simple in itself, is one of the most novel of our times, involving the first interests of commerce and security to life. How necessary is it, then, to take

A BROAD VIEW OF THE WHOLE SUBJECT; to examine it as affecting the traveller, the ship-per, the sailor, the officer on deck, the capitalist and the underwriter? The mere establishment of these "lanes" will require the codification of a complete system of maritime jurisprudence, and will have the almost immediate effect of binding the great commercial Powers in such indissoluble des that war will be a remoter contingency than

it was left by the Treaty of Washington. HOW WILL THEY AFFECT THE TRAVELLER? The traveller turning to any port or country which he desires to visit either as the tourist in pursuit of pleasure or as the man of business bent on some hasty but important enterprise, immediately consults all his authorities in order to discover the shortest, safest and pleasantest route. If he be a tourist then he does not necessarily select the shortest route. He has time to stop a some intermediate city; time to visit historical ites and gather rich collections of the native curiosities. Let us suppose that his objective point is Liverpool. He visits Bowling Green, buys his ticket, and in technical parlance "his passage is taken." Heavy weather intervenes between the date of engaging his stateroom and the date of saling, and his numerous friends recall with horrible vividness all the accidents which have occurred on the Atlantic. He is reminded of the fate of the old Collins line; how camer after steamer came to an untimely end, and the surviving widows and orphans are mentioned by name. The recent appalling disasters, with all their harrowing details, are succinctly and graphically set forth for his benefit, and st heartrending pictures of the sad cenes which accompany shipwreck, foundering collision are made to overwhelm him like a nightmare. Whatever instinct in the human heart 11 may be which induces these Job's comforters to smind you of the dangers incident to ocean travel, it is there, and it never loses an opportunity to find expression. What theme is oftener recited than the details of the wrecked Atlantic during that cold winter morning when she ran on a rock off the Canadian coast? How many times have we all heard of the loss of the City of Boston—ill-lated crait—but never with the details! How often has the story of the Ville du Havre been told and the recent accidents served up for the benefit of the tunid women and children who cannot resist the laupulse to visit Europe! It is this talk, which is inevitable, and which keeps thousands, we might say hundreds of thousands, of people at home who would otherwise go abroad. In fact, disasters at sea have a very powerful effect on the public mind—so powerful an effect that travellers journeying southward prefer to take the rickety Southern railways rather than patronize the coastwise steamships. One disaster is a terrible calamity to a line. Successful operation is bound to bring a grand fortune and a public sidmiration not second to that idolatry which is extorted by the grandest of human achievements. There is a well known line plying between this port and Europe which can prouchy boast that it has never losts a life. Its discipline is periect, and so portect that people think that the efficers are unnecessarily crusty, ugly and ill-tempered. They are not so. Duty and this pride, which they would not sacrifice by calamity, makes them hard of heart in the right direction—that is, travel it is there, and it never loses an opporwhich they would not sacrifice by calamity, makes them hard of heart in the right direction—that is, they do not permit the passenger to interfere with their business. When you hear that this captain or that captain is not a genial, kind-hearted man you can make up your mind that he is a good seaman, who will not land you athwart of a jagged rock. But few lines have ever arrived at this perfection of discipline, and, therefore, a sharp, man, datory, international system, as rigid as the "miles for the better government of the navy," is demanded in the interests of life, knorey is a powerful incentive in all departments of life, and above all the greep for read woney—"quick profits" is more demorralizing than mere mercantile awarce, which, to a certain extent, is inc part of evarence, which, to a certain extent, is inc part of evarence, which, to a certain extent, is inc part of evarence, which, to a certain extent, is inc part of evarence, which, to a certain extent, is inc part of evarence, which, to a certain extent, is inc part of evarence, which, to a certain extent, is inc part of evarence, and a travelier that a man will do more in the pursuit of gain than in the chase of glory, more even than a defence of his religion; we might add to this and say that he will do more in quest of gold than for the security of life. He will wantonly secrifice human beings if the sacrifice will not fit sany kind of technical murder. This broad truth is sadly apparent in all the commerce of the seas. The English and Scandinavian races alone are exceptions to the rule. John Buil is sessentially a growier. He lives to find fault. He is a born critic. Anything that interferes with his comfort, if he pay a fartinung for that commodity, he denounces in vigorous language and empastic terms, and is generally rewarded with success. If his denumbrate of the sea which the public. The complainer of the sypathic terms, and is generally rewarded with success. If his denumbrate of the sea which characterizes the administration of English

a rog supervenes, the sea is rising and the wind howing, and the ship labors beavily, while the log whistle sounds a constant alarm. The timid man begins to weaken. He knows that they are on no fixed route of travel, that they are on the broad North Atlantic, away from timely succor, and that if the ship goes down the boats cannot live. Now if this timid man could feel assured that a twin ship were not far distant, within signating distance, and that they were not abroad on the sea, but on

tance, and that they were not abroad on the sea, but on

AN ABSOLUTE ROUTE OF TRAVEL,
then he could sleep soundly, eat, drink and smoke well, and not suffer all of the torments of a watery grave in prospect. The mere feeling that a companionship is near at hand would remove "if terror which is diabolical to the mind of a seaman. It may be said that great loss of life is more frequently entailed from imaginary danger than from that which is real. When a panic seizes a herd of passengers then all is lost. Not only is this true on the sea, but it is more than true on the land. All will recall the terrible exeitment on the burning of the Cathedral at Lima, when more than 2,000 men and women made a rush for the doors; but they closed up the passage ways and the bodies of the victims, charred and beyond recognition, were all that was left of the most brilliant society of Peru. Hence every movement which tends to reassure the public in places of possible danger is the best provision which can be made against disaster.

We will now suppose that

society of Peru. Hence every movement which tends to reassure the public in places of possible danger is the best provision which can be made against disaster.

We will now suppose that

Occurs; that the steamer springs aleak, that the fires are put out, the sais will not keep her to the wind or before the wind, her canvas has been blown from the boltropes; and she gets in the trough of the sea, disabled and in a sunking condition, in a nowling tempest. This is certainly an unpleasant predicament, but "ateam lanes" we will assume exist. There should be a twin vessel abeam. Possibly she too is disabled, but such an event would not occur once in a thousand times. Suppose she is not disabled. It is night time. Rocaets are sent up. There is a log and the fire signals cannot be seen, electric lights even can not be seen, the steam whistic cannot be heard; but a gun fired can be heard above the roar, and the twin ship bears down in the direction of the call. Thus relied is at hand, and relief too of a character that is demanded. We have supposed a most extraordinary catastrophe—one probably that might never occur in mid-ocean. How much easier, then, would be accidents of a minor character, but which without the presence of relief would place all the lives on board in certain peril! It is hardly surprising, then, that steam lanes, in view have heard no one oppose them, and no one can oppose them, because they have been endorsed by all the best authorities among the maritime nations. The New York chamber of Commerce nastaken an active interest in their establishment.

ACTION OF THE CHAMBER OF COMMERGE.

At a recent meeting Mr. John Austin Stevens offered the following resolutions:—

Resolved. That the same committee be requested to report upon the feasibility of using electric lights upon ocean steamers for still further security from collision, and the propriety of requiring that the cabins and the passages shall be always lighted at night by lights inaccessible to the passagers. but which may be obscured by them in the staterooms at will.

by them in the staterooms at will.

The question was taken separately on the resolutions, and they were unanimously adopted, and the committee was authorized to transmit to both houses of Congress an authenticated copy of the memorial called for in the first resolution.

The President appointed as such committee Messrs. John Austin Stevens, Jr.; Francis S. Lathrop, William C. Thompson.

As will be seen from the annexed memorial, Congress readily embraced the proposition and referred the matter to the appropriate committee. The arguments cited in this memorial are unanswerable.

THE MEMORIAL.

In accordance with these resolutions the following memorial was forwarded to Congress:—

TO THE HONORABLE THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRE SENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, IN UON

Ing memorial was iorwarded to Congress:—

To the Homorable the Samark and House of References the Homorable in the Samark and House of References in the Chamber of Commerce of the State of New York, alarmed by the increasing frequency of collisions at sea upon the now thickly covered ocean track between the American and burgoean continents, and fully believing that this terrible danger which the late anking of the Ville du layer of the Chamber of Commerce of the State of New York, alarmed by the burgoean continents, and fully believing that this terrible danger which the late anking of the Ville du layer of the Chamber of the Ch

GROBGE WILSON, Secretary.

This memorial was presented to the House on the 18th of December by the Hon. S. Cox, memoer from New York, ordered to be printed and reterred to the Committee on Commerce; and on the 19th to the Senate by the Hon. Roscoc Conkling, senator from this State, and referred to the Senate Committee on Commerce.

The House of Representatives was pleased to receive the memorial in open House, and to pass it directly to its committee—an exception to the rule that such documents shall pass to committee only through the Clerk.

The House of Representatives was pleased to receive the memorial in open House, and to pass it directly to its committee—an exception to the rule that such documents shall pass to committee only through the Clerk. From this and numerous other expressions of sympathy with the object proposed, on the part of members or both houses, and from the general approval of the intelligent press, your committee have reason to believe that the prayer of the memorial will be heard with favor by Congress at an early day, and meet the tavor of the country. Your committee have had under consucration the second branch of the subject—the use of electric and other lights" upon steamers and seagoing vessels—and repeat salvantage of a powerful light, upon steamers and large salling vessels, both as regards their own say and that of other and smaller crait, with which they are in danger of collision. Here advantages are in direct ratio to the power of the light. By its use the danger of collision will be greatly diminished, if not wholly avoided, and the means of safety in case of other and unforeseen accidents be also greatly increased. A consideration of the two terrible accidents of the past year, resulting in the total loss of two of the largest and finest steaniships on the occan, with several hundred passengers and crew—the one, the Atlantic, by shipwreck on the northern coast; the other, the villed of Havre, by collision in open sea, clearly establishes the correctness of this opinion.

In the case of the Atlantic, out of her course and driven by storm upon an unknown coast, it is more than probable that the power of a strong aght, turniging into view the coast line, might have sufficed to warn the officer in charge of the near danger in time for him to have steered clear of the rocks upon which the vessel was an extendible that the power of a strong aght, turniging into view the coast line, might be taken in the premises.

The mistake of Senator Conking's bill, and which has been pointed out editorically in the Hanally went d

the governments of the maritime rowers of Europe, and to invite their co-operation in the international commission herein proposed.

STEAM LANES AND SCIENCE.

Intimately connected with "steam lanes" is necessarily a better study of the sea. The Hydrographic Office at Washington has already done good work in deep sea soundings and in the general accumulation of scientific knowledge. But the greater labor has been expended in the Pacific. This can hardly be understood, when it is remembered that the most important interests of the United States are in the North Atlantic. It will become the duty of the government at Washington, after the commission shall have been appointed, to diverge from this policy and carry on a series of scientific hydrographic surveys in the zones of "steam lanes," to the end that the trackways may be periectly determined by many different systems of check—not the least important of which is deep sea sounding. If a scientific officer were attached to each merchant steamer there would be little difficulty in soon collecting abundant maritime knowledge for the support of "steam lanes."

THE COMING MAN.

(From the Philadelphia Press.) President Grant seems to have at last yielded to the sentiment which demands a change in the Treasury Department, and to have chosen General B. H. Bristow, formerly Solicitor General, as Mr. Richardson's successor.

MINISTER JAY IN VIENNA.

THE STORY OF HIS DIFFICULTY.

An American Minister and Austrian Law.

INTERNATIONAL LAW.

FRANKPORT-ON-THE-MAIN. May 4, 1874. The Austrian and German papers have given so much attention to the interesting diplomatic and egal difficulties which have recently arisen in Vienna between our Minister, the Hon. John Jay, and the Austrian judicial authorities, and so much ill leeling and denunciation of our representative has been expressed on this side of the water, that I have thought it well to get at the facts of the case, which are these:—In November, 1869, Mr. Jay leased from a certain Mr. Fation a house for the vember, 1873, at the rate of some 12,000 floring per year. Several mouths before the expiration of the lease Mr. Jay and the landlord agreed that upon an increase of the rent a new lease, as an extension of the old one, should be drawn up for one year, each party to give one year's notice. Mr. absence from his post for the purpose of visiting the United States, and, as we now know, he is on his way via England for nome. Whether Mr. Jay has the intention of returning to Vienna or not we cannot say; the Vienna journals say our Minister has left the Danube for good.

worthy source, which the Vienna journals say is the person of Mr. Jay's sou-in-law, Baron Schweinitz, that the house in which he resided had been sold over his head. Now the Austrian law says that in such a case all lease contracts are rendered null and vold, and that six months' notice just as the new lease was commencing, Mr. Jay, taking advantage of the sale, and in compliance with local custom, gave notice to his landlord and to the imperial District Court that at the expiradon of six months he should consider himself fully at liberty to leave. By so doing he walved in no way either his privileges or rights as a Minister; but the Austrian journals persist in saying that when Mr. Jay made notification to the Imperial Court he thereby acknowledged its jurisdiction, and, having so done. Was amenable to the Austrian courts to answer the case preferred against him by his landlord. But this position is tenable, for in acting as he did Mr. Jay simply compiled with a local custom. He had no alternative but to give notice according to the custom of the country. bound to obey the general police regulations and local customs of the land."

In the month of April, 1874, the landlord took exception to Mr. Jay's notification to the imperial listrict court. He argued that he had neither sold the house nor had any intention of so doing. According to local custom, whenever a landlord objects to the tenant's notice to leave he notifies the Court, which then calls upon the tenant to give the usual manner and cited Mr. Jay to appear be fore it. To this summons Mr. Jay, taking the ground of his coterritorial facilities, very naturally gave no heed. The summons was twice repeated, with the same result as fore. Then the Grand Marshal's officials cited him, and finally the summons was forwarded through the hands of the Imperial Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Mr. Jay resorted to his rights and privilege as a Minister, whereupon the citations were discontinued. He claimed that he could only follow the orders of his government, whereupon mon courts to cease their annoyances. Here the matter rests. Mr. Jay has sailed for the United States, and he takes his personal effects along with him. The Legation has been moved, and the former dwelling is empty. The landlord has received his six months' rent to May 1, but he still claims he will sue for the rent from May to November Most interesting is now the fact that the contract for the new lease, although formally prepared, was by some omission never signed by the contracting when he gave notice we cannot surmise. At any rate, from this point of view, Mr. Jay is legally evidently in the right. He has given six months' notice, paid six months' rent (at the rate of \$12,000 florins a year), and has remained in the dwelling without a contract, but with the assent of the landlord, all of which is admissible and in accordance with the laws and customs of Vienna.

In dealing with the case in question Mr. Jay has of his own rights and immunities. The interests and prosperity of every State necessitate from to time communications with other States and to facilitate this communication custom has provided that the sovereign of every State shall have the right, although under no obligation to use it, to send public representatives to those ful and amicable relations. These representatives may be Ministers of the first, second or third

countries with which he desires to maintain peaceful and amicable relations. These representatives
may be Ministers of the first, second or third
class. When departing a credential is given
to the Minister which he presents to the government to which he is accredited, and
so soon as he is informed of his recognition he enters upon the discharge of his duties, and from
this moment he represents the dignity and the
rights of the sovereign by whom he is delegated.
He enjoys certain privileges and honors formally
accorded by treaty and by the customs of nations.
First, he enjoys the right of inviolability, by virtue
of which the person of the ambassador is considered as with a safety.

Second, he enjoys the right of inviolability, by virtue
of which the person of the ambassador is considered as within the territory
of the States could not be carried on unmolested and with safety. Second, he enjoys the
right of externitoriality, whereby the minister,
although actually within the limits of a foreign
country, is still considered as within the territory
of the State whose representative he is. He is
thereby exempt from local jurisdiction, which consists in his exemption from the civil and criminal
courts—that is, nothing can be demanded of a
minister which would in the least degree hinder
him in the discharge of his duties to his government. This immunity extends to his family, suite
and members of the legation, to his dwellings, carriages and personals.

Notwithstanding these principles laid down by
international law, treaties and custom, we find it
that Mr. Jay was, otted by the Austrian civil tribunals to appear as defendant in a case. This actcourls, for unacobiedly they proceeded in utler
ignorance of the rights and brivileges of a minister; but the Austrian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
cannot be considered as acting under the same
circumstances, because it has preferred to give
precedence over international law to its own comminor law, the proceeded in the superson of the country
to the minis

note to Wheaton. 29). The Romans held the person of a public minister to be inviolable and entirely exempt from the jurisd ction of their tribunals. To each minister was given the immunity to be tried before the tribunals of the country by

tirely exempt from the jurish ction of their tribunals. To each minister was given the immunity to be tried before the tribunals of the country by which he was delegated.

Interesting was the case of Mr. Wheaton with the Prussian government, where an article of the civil code entiting the lessor to a lien on the movable property of the lessee was brought into question. To enforce the article the aid of the Court was necessary. The Prussian government sustained the landlord, but Mr. Wheaton replied that he was thus put on a level with His Prussian Majesty's subjects. After considerable correspondence between the two governments the question was dropped. The point is settled with many that a Minister cannot be demanded to appear as witness in a case, because thereby authority over his time is necessitated. In 1856 the Minister of the Netherlands at Washington was requested (the right of reiusal being admitted), but not demanded, to appear as a witness in the Herbert murder case, but he decimed. The question has been much discussed whether an ambassador may voluntarily appear before the courts. This point concerns the minister's soverigin, and his bermission must first be sought. Does he waive his rights and come before the courts, he is subject to the usual order of procedure (wheaton, Phillipore). Is an ambassador insuited, he should apply to the Minister of Foreian Affairs for protection. It is his duty to extend it (Blunrischi).

In 1686 the effects of the Minister Resident of King Alphonso VI., of Portugal, were seized for debt and publicity sold. In 1668 the Minister undertook to leave The Hagne without having satissied his creditors. The latter applied to the Netherlands government for protection. It is his duty to extend it for the minister was first detained in a hotel with a guard, but, subsequently, placed in a common prison. The case resulted in a decision reade in 1679 by the Netherlands government, "that ambassadors, ministers, their suts and lamilies, which they may contract." An interesting case wa

decion of her tribunals. A copy of this act was engrossed and illuminated, and a minister extraorainary despatched with it ost. Petersburg. So the Czar's wrath was allayed.

International law, therefore, should have taught the vienna Foreign office not to insuit a minister by supporting the summons of its courts.

Now, while we must consider the conduct of the Austrian courts and Foreign Office to attempt to interfere at all in the matter as directly at variance with international law and custom, it is still a question as to how far Mr. Jay has acced morally right. Legally, he has the law on his side, for a positive and distinct understanding which the landlord entered with him on the new lease has no value, because the new contract was never signed. An eminent Vienna lawyer has expressed the optinion that, since the written contract, because not signed, is not valid, Mr. Jay had, consequently, a perfect right to give half a year's notice instead of a whole year, and that he will succeed in coming out of the difficulty first best. When Mr. Jay gave notice to the Imperial District Court or his determination to leave at the expiration of a six months' notice, he did so in the belief that the house had been sold over his head. The landlord denying this (Mr. Jay accepted the rumor as true), Mr. Jay's case would have been very leaky but for the fortunate circumstance of the unsigned contract. The impression produced in Vienna is, of course, unlavorable to Mr. Jay; yet we cannot bring curselves to sympathize with the landlord, who would do well, instead of groaning over his loss, to relet his house instead of allowing it to remain empty. The whole correspondence in the matter has been transmitted to President Grant. It is said that the landlord intends to ask the United States government for astisfaction and justice in the matter. Mr. Jay sails from Liverpool with his family in the second week of May. The Hon. H. Garretson, our chief Commissioner at the Vienna Exposition, sails with him.

SEASIDE AND COUNTRY.

Mount Desert, Me., should be taken in the The Croton Lake Hotel, near Mount Kisco, Westchester, is now open.

Mrs. C. B. Hossack, of this city, has arrived at her Newport residence. The Sound View House, City Island, Westchester

county, is a new resort. The new Suffolk Hotel on Peconic Bay affords a pleasant place for visitors.

The Seven Springs House, Monroe, Orange county, N. Y., will open June 15.

The Train Mountains are descendants of Mount Washington; you descend by rail. Pequot House, New London, Colonel Crocker proprietor, will open on the 10th of June.

in the way of dams likely to break forth. The grand old elms in the court of the old United States Hotel, Saratoga, are still flourishing. For the first ume in ten years New York dailies

will be sold at Saratoga this year at five cents per copy.
"Sara-Toga is gay and coquettish; nevertheless she entertains Sara-Phims unawares," says an ex-

The family of John M. Courtney, of No. 2 West Flity-first street, will occupy their country house .

Hon. Thomas B. Carroll, of Troy, has offered a donation of valuable books to Saratoga for a library and picture gallery, but the village has no building in which to place them.
"One of our quasi summer residual."

fly 'puts on airs,' " says the Newport News. "not only fails to pay store bills, but leaves the family servants without remuneration."
The Cufford House, head of Plymouth Beach,

Mass. (a new structure, capable of housing 300 guests), opens June 15; Mr. J. V. Robbins, late of the Grand Hotel, is the proprietor. As an evidence that the hotel proprietors appre-

clate the benefits of early advertising to fill their houses, we may state that the HERALD of Sunday, May 17, contained cards of seventy-five

houses.
The Hatfield House, Messina Springs, St. Lawrence county, N. Y., will open this week. This a popular Northern resort, visited by the étite of Canadian society, owing to its proximity to the St. Lawrence River.

A. E. Briggs, of the Grand View Mountain House,

Catskills, invites sinners and Christians alike to climo 3,000 feet into the upper air and "see him" to the tune of \$2 per day or \$5 per week. It is

summer season with anxiety and eagerness readily understood by all save susceptible young ladies. Examination comes in June, then white trousers, then encampment, and last, but by no means least,

the weekly hops.
Saratoga, Newport, Cape May and Lake Mahopa have local journais; but with the exception of the Herald at the Lake, as well might you attempt to haten game chickens from billiard balls as to find any summer gossip in them other than what they

hatch from these columns.

Among the notels that offer superior accommodations are the Irving House, Cambridge, N. Y., now open; the United States at Long Branch, to open June 15; the Lake Side House, Newburg.
N.Y., now open: the West End Hotel, Fort Washington, and the La Tourette House, Bergen Point.
J. M. Herrick and family, of No. 6 East Twenty-sixth street, and Mrs. E. M. Block and family, of

East Twenty-ninth street, have secured rooms at Thompson's, Lake Mahopac. General Ferraq, Joshua S. Cooley, Mrs. Augustus Purdy, of No. 359 Twenty-fifth street, with their families, will also be found at Thompson's.

It rests largely with the hotel proprietors at the

watering places whether they will have crowded houses or not this season. Those who early advertise reasonable rates of board will almost certainly get all the guests they can accommodate. mention even the State in which their houses are located or the means of reaching them.

The Hygiene Hotel, Old Point Comfort, is now open. The Van Doren House, Washington, N. J., is open. The Websier House, Catskills, is also open. Among the other hotels that offer supeperior inducements are the Englewood Park Hotel, Perth Amboy, N. J.; the Lakestde House, Newburg, N. Y.; Jenkinson's Hotel, Highlands, N. J.; the Woodsburg Pavilion, Rockaway; the Addison House, Middlebury, Vt.; Chamberlin House, Rahway, N. J.; Canadarago House, Richfield Springs; Forest Lawn House, Cold Spring Harbor, N. J.; Hamilton House, Green Lake, N. J.; Leighton House, Newman Springs, N. J.; Neptune House, New Rochelle; Pavilion Hotel, Keyport; Standard House, White Plains, N. Y.; Southside House, Great South Bay, L. I., and the South Oyster Bay House, South Oyster Bay, L. L

MANITOBA.

An Interview with a Member of the Dominion Parliament.

The Troubles in the Red River Territory.

On Saturday, the HERALD having ascertained that Mr. Cunningham, member of the Dominion Parliament for the county of Marquette, in Manicalled upon him with a view to obtain some information respecting the peculiar history of that Province during the past four or five years. The reporter found the honorable gentleman exceedsimid in expressing his views and opinions relative with what he called the "troubles of 1869 and '70." A condensed account of the conversation between

given below :good deal about your Province of Manitoba, but our information has been somewhat fragmentary. Most of our people fail to appreciate the exact position which led to the difficulties which occurred between Canada and your Province some years ago. Can you ex lain what was the real cause

Mr. Cunningham-I can quite conceive the difficulty you have in appreciating the political position in the Red River country in 1869, for that position was altogether anomalous—unprecedented, in fact, and thoroughly in discord with what are termed the principles of English constitutional government.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM-In this way. There were four parties connected with that Red River country. These were England, Canada, the Hudson Bay Company and the people of the country. Now, the first three parties laid their heads together and came to a little arrangement among themselves without recognizing the fourth party—that is, the people—at all. The arrangement was that the Hudson Bay Company were to be paid by Canada to understand, for they owned no property in the they retain still, exactly as before. For this payment the whole Northwest was to be handed over to Canada, and England was to have no more bother with it. But you observe the people of the country were utterly ignored in this transaction and you must remember that the people of what is now Manitoba are better educated, wealthier, more intelligent than the people of any Province in the Dominion, and periectly capable of appreciating the rights that belong to them as British subjects. To put the position a little more plainly-England and Canada, with equal justice, might have come to an arrangement by which Australia or New Zealand or Jamaica, or any other colony, could have been handed over to Canada, without consulting the people of any of these colonies, as they could with Manitoba. It was a British colony in every sense of the term. It had its Parliament; it could impose taxes and did so; it had its various courts of justice: it was, in short, a British colony in all its constitution. And England and Canada and the

Hudson Bay Company treated it as a chattel.

REPORTER—Do you mean to say that the people of that country got no official intimation that first negotiations were proceeding and then that these were completed ?

Mr. Cunningham-Not one word was ever spoken to the people of the Northwest, either with regard to the proceedings or their completion. Neither Governor McTavish, who represented at once the Hudson Bay Company and Queen Victoria, nor the Conneil of Assinibuin. who represented the people, nor the

confederation with Canada was ever dreamed of. REPORTER—Well, how did the matter culminate, and what brought about the troubles-I mean what were the direct causes of these troubles!

Mr. CUNNINGHAM-These were threefold. First, the Canadian government, long before even the negotiations were completed, sent up an army of surveyors into the Red River Territory, These men, void of all discretion, set to work, ran their lines regardless altogether of the conformation of the farms (i the oil settlers, threatened these old settlers when they reasoned with them that the Canadians would soon drive them out of the country any way, and that they need not mind how they conducted their surveys, and produced in the minds of the old settlers a strong feeling of fear of Canadian rule. Then these people, who were in a great measure cut of from any connection with Canada, did not exactly know what idea to come with range of confederation. They as a people, did not know what laws were to be put in force in their country. They had their own taxation of four per cent on imports, but they had no knowledge of how far this was to be increased or decreased by confederation; in fact, they, were driven, by want of knowledge, into a corner, and at length they withstood Canadian interference, and refused to have then anything to do with

Canada.

REPORTER-How did they show this? Mr. CUNNINGHAM-When the Hon, William Mac-Dougall came to Pembina and wanted to enter the country as Governor of the Northwest-at a time when, as is acknowledged by everybody, he had neither a commission nor had the Canadian gov-

when, as is acknowledged by everybody, he had neither a commission nor had the Canadian government a right to grant him such a thing, and when he issued, on the 1st of December, a proclamation, but which, in fact, was a lorgery, calling upon the people to receive him as their Governor and accept such terms and arrangements as might seem proper for him to grant them. Then the people said, 'No; you can't come in here. We not only won't acknowledge you, but we will not even permit you to enter the territory either as Governor or as plain William MacDougall." And they did not allow him to come in. So he had to return to Ottawa, and is now employed by government as an emigration agent in Seandinavia.

Reporter—There occurs to me a question at this point on which I should like to have some information. What position did the old government take at this crisis? You have mentioned a Governor representing the Queen and a Council representing she people of the country. Did they make any move at all when the people refused MacDougall entrance into the country.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM—That is a very important point, especially as matters now stand. When MacDougall issued his proclamation as emmaning from the queen, on the lat of December, the Governor resigned his functions; the council was dissolved. Canada had no legal connection with the country until the 12th of May following, and the question now is, was there in the interim a defacto government or was there not. I hold there was. Because the people, after having told MacDougali to keep away, set to work to form a government on recognized constitutional principles. There were twenty-iour of what were called parishes in the section of the Red River territory, now called Manitoba. In matton was given to each of these parishes to send a representative in order to form a parilament with a view to the good government of the country. These representatives were sent, a cabinet was formed by these representatives, what was called a bill of rights was drawn out to be laid before the Ca

tutional rule, the government was a de facts government.

REFORTER—May I ask why you lay so much stress on urging the point of the interim government—if I may so name it—being recognized as a de facto government?

Mr. CUNNINGHAM—Your query is quite a natural with material stress of the control in time a with a second control in time a with material with material stress.

Mr. Cunningham—Your query is quite a natural one, especially as you are not intimate with maters as they now stand. Tou are aware that the other day Louis Riel, who was President of the intering government, having been elected representative for the county of Provenchu, one of the electoral districts of Manitoba, was expelled the House of Commons of Canada.

REPORTER—On what grounds?

Mr. Cunningham—On the ground that he was a "ingitive from justice."

REPORTER—How was that?

Mr. Cumningham—Simply in this way. Riel lived after confederation peaceably in the country for three years without molestation. The Attorney General of the Province, an illiterate is wyer, humself a jugitive from justice, inasmuch as he cannot set his foot within the Province of Quebec without being arrested, wanted to represent Provenchu in

the Dominion Parliament. Riel wanted to represent Provencia in the Dominion Parliament too. A feud arose. Of course Riel's return was a certainty; the Attorney had not the ghost of a chance of success. In these circumstances the latter issued warrants for the arrest of Riel on a charge of murder; swore in hundreds of special constables, who scoured the country with Clarke, the Attorney General, at their head; broke into convents, ransacked parsousges, even went so iar as to invade the cathedrai of St. Bomiace, the head quarters of Aronbishop Tuché, moissted women in their private residences ween their husbands were absent—all in search of Louis Riel, who, I maintain, was the head of a de facto government when the act for which he is now persecuted was committed occurred.

M. CUNNINGBAM—They did. But he will be reelected, and they may expel him again, and again
he will be re-elected.

REFORTER—But what is going to be the result of Mr. CUNNINGBAM—It is said on very reliable authority that the county will be distranchised if he is re-elected once.

REFORTER—What then?

Mr. CUNNINGBAM—Well, I am no annexationist. But, speaking deliberately, and after much careful thought and observation, I have not the sightest hesitation in saying that distranchisement would be tantamount to annexation. The House of Commons of Canada, in my opinion, in expeiling Rule, acted without a single precedent in the constitutional history of England, to justify the act; in expeiling him a second time, in my opinion, they will act without precedent again; and should the will not only be void of precedent, but for which not a fragment of a constitutional argument can be urged.

REFORTER—One word more with respect to your idea of a de facto government having existed between, I think you said the 1st of December and the 12th of July; why do you arge that point? How does it bear on any-ining in question?

Mr. CUNNINGBAM—It bears this way. Having been a de facto government, neituer the government of the Province of Manitoba nor the government of the Province of Manitoba nor the government of the province in the Dominion, nor the government of the province in the Dominion or the government of the province of Manitoba nor the government of the bominion itself has anything whatever to do with any parties concerned in the troubles of 68 and 70. If any power has the right of call with the matter it is the English government, and I hold that any warrapas issued for the arrest of any parties concerned in the troubles of 68 and 70. If any power has the right of the province of the factor of the fact

tional influence at work to sustain this political tension,
\(\) Mr. CUNNINGHAM—You are perfectly right. There is an underlying influence, and an influence which threatens some day to produce serious results for Canada if not met somehow. They may become eloquent over what they call the murder of Scott; but the real question at issue in Canada to-day is, whether the Orange Lodge is to rule canada or not. I see you are taking notes and will probably publish something of what I am saying, but I say it deliberately, and in my capacity as a representative man, that the whole cry of Riel is a sectional cry, and the excitement kept up relative to our troubles and the action that has been taken in the matter of Riel's explusion, have their sole origin in the Orange lodges of the Domilion. And unless some wise statesmen comes to the rescue this very question will send consideration, to use a vulgarism, "higher than a kite." REPORTER-That is your serious opinion? Are

province take of the whole matter as it stands?

Mr. OUNNINGHAM—They regard it this way.
They see that in the first instance, through the
unscrupulousness of some men and the ignorance of others, they were in a measure lorced into
confederation. Sir John A. Macdonald and Sir
George Cartier wanted something by means of
which they might consolidate their position, and,
finding themselves becoming a little snaky, they
resolved to raise the cry of confederation with the
Northwest. They raised the cry. They made the
agreement I have referred to with Enpland and
the Hudson Bay Company. They plundered,
and now the people of Manitoba see that on
account of the plunderings of these people at
Ottawa, they are suffering in every way. Louis
kiel is being persecuted; sectional animosities are
being fostered; immigration is being impeded;
the development of the Northwest is oeing hindered, and they have come to discover that Manitoba, with its history, is a mere shutlecook which
is being played with between two opposing political
parties. And the play is awilly unscrupulous, Just
magine a man in the position of Sir John A.
Macdonald, at the general election a year and a
hair ago. On his hustings ne declaimed in the
most touching terms on the death of Scott, and,
snaking his fist in the air and speaking of. Louis
Riel, he exclaimed, "I wish to God we could catch
him. I would hang him." Now what did this same
right honorable gentleman—for he is a right honorable—do within the year before? He first payed,
through a second party, \$3.000 to Riel to get out of
the way and save trouble. Then, when Sir
George was deleated in Montreal, he gave Riel
again through the same party \$1,000 to get out of
the way and resign his candidature in havor of Sir
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REFORTER—These are facts which were dispayments.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM—They are facts which were disclosed the other day before a parliamentary committee on the evidence of Archbishop Tuché at Ottawa. But I ought to mention that Riel refused to accept the money from the Archbishop as coming from the Canadian government. He took it as a loan and holds himself indebted to the Archbishop for the amounts.

Reforere—it strikes me you are in a pretty muddle still up there. How is the matter to be settled? Is it a sine qua non that Riel should be hanced in order to make things square?

Mr. CUNNINGHAM—It looks like that. It seems to me that Canada, while emulating American progress, overlooks American policy, which develops her progress. If the United States had such a miserable, petty anair to deal with and such an immense territory as that of the British Northwest to develop they would have dealt with the matter long arc. They would have put things in such a shape that immigration could have flowed into that vast prairie region without any fear of internal disturbance; but somehow Canadian politicians igit to appreciate the right way of dealing with tife dues of small things. By their stupidity in the first place, and their cowardice in the second place, the Canadian authorities are proving themselves patent obstructionists, at least so far as regards the settlement and development of the richest, most extensive and fertile region in the Dominion.

At this point Mr. Cunningham, having an engagement to attend to, suggested to our reporter that on another occasion ne might in another interview give some facts touching the nature of the country, les climate, its probable commercial coancetion with America, and something about the old settlers and the new. We may mention that the mimor for Marquette is a burly Scotchman, and has a naive way of calling a spade a spade.

AN AMUSING STORY. (From the Chicago Post.)

The New York HrealD claims to have had a cor-respondent present at Nellie Grant's wedding, and that it was the only newspaper represented there. The New York Commercial says that the Herald man "enlisted for three years in the Ma-rine Band for the sole purpose of getting into the White House on that occasion." This equals the leat of the correspondent who enlisted in the nay, for the purpose of getting on the Polark expedi-